

its continuance. It afterwards became a monastery of Carthusians. A considerable number of the Charter-house monks refused obstinately to acknowledge the king's supremacy: John Houghton, the prior, was executed on the 27th April, 1535; two others, William Exmewe and Sebastian Newdigate, suffered on the 18th of June following; and Richard Bere, John Davy, Thomas Johnson, Thomas Green, Thomas Shryne, Walter Pierson, Robert Salt, Thomas Redyng, and William Horn, were executed on the 4th of August.

## XIV.

## BEDYLL TO CROMWELL.

[From MS. Cotton. Cleop. E. vi. fol. 252.]

Pleace it you to understand, that on Tuesday furthwith upon my departure from you I repaired to the Charter-house, and had with me diverse bokes and annotations bothe of myne owne and others against the primacy of the bisshope of Rome, and also of saint Peter, declaring evidently the equalite of the apostelles by the law of God. And after long communication more than on howre and a half with the vicar and procurater of the house, I left thoes bokes and annotations with thaim, that they shuld se the holy scriptures and doctors thereupon concernyng the said maters, and thereupon reforme theim selves acordingly. And yesterday they sent me the said bokes and annotations againe home to my house by a servant of thairs, without any word or writing. Wherfor I sent to the procurater to com and speke with me, seing I kept my bed bi reason of siknes, and could not com to him. And at his comyng, I demaunded of him whether he and the vicar and other of the sennors had seen or herd the said annotations, or perused the titles of the bokes making moost for the said maters. And he aunswerd that the vicar and he and Nudigat had spent the tyme upon thaim tyl ix. or x. of the clok at nyght, and that they saw nothing in thaim wherby they wer moved to alter thair opinion. I than declared to him the daingor of his opinion, whiche was like to be the destruction of thaim and thair house for ever; and as far as I could perceyve by my com-

munication with the vicar and procurator on Tuesday, and with the procurater yesterday, they be obstinatly determined to suffer al extremities rather than to alter thair opinion, regarding no more the dethe of thair father in word or countenance than he wer leving and conversant among thaim. I also demaunded of the procurater whether the residue of his bretheren wer of like opinion, and he aunswerd he was not suer, but he thought the wer al of one mynd. I shewed him that I thought that the spirit whiche appered affor God, and seyed he wold be a fals spirite in the mouthes of al the prophetes of Acab, had inspired thaim and sowed thys obstinacy in thaim. Finally I suppose it to be the wyl of God, that as thair religion had a simple begynnyng, so in this realme it shal have a strainge ende, procured by thaim selves and by none others. And albeit they pretend holines in this behalf, suerly the ground of thair said opinion is hypocrisy, vayne glory, confederacy, obstinacy, to thentent they may be seen to the worle, or specially to suche as have confidence in thaim, more feythful and more constant than any other. From Aldergate strete, this mornyng of Ascention day. I am so trobyld with the fever, that I am fayne to kepe my house.

By your owne,

THOMAS BEDYLL.

XV.

ROLAND LEE \* AND BEDYLL TO CROMWELL.

[From MS. Cotton. Cleopat. E. iv. fol. 10.]

Please it yow to understande, that on Saturday laste aboute vj. of the clock we receyved your lettres by the provynciall of the

\* Roland Lee had been one of the King's chaplains, and performed the marriage ceremony between the King and Anne Boleyn: in 1534 he had been made Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield, and the King also conferred upon him the presidency of the council of Wales.